



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Noriko OTA

Group Art Unit : 3762

Appl. No. : 10/777,064

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : February 13, 2004

Confirmation No.: 4110

For : LIGHT SOURCE APPARATUS FOR ENDOSCOPE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,
Applicant hereby call to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-210245, which was published
on August 2, 2000, together with an English language translation of the same. Applicant
notes that this document is discussed on page 2 of the specification;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 10-108826, which was published
on April 28, 1998, together with an English language translation of the same. Applicant
notes that this document is discussed on page 2 of the specification;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2002-72106, which was published on
March 12, 2002, together with an English language translation of the same. Applicant
notes that this document is discussed on page 2 of the specification;

Japanese Patent No. 2866658, which issued on December 18, 1998, together with
an English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-305148, which was published on November 5, 1999, together with an English language translation of the same; and

U.S. Patent No. 6,602,186 to SUGIMOTO et al., which issued on August 5, 2003.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patent is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents and translations are attached hereto and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following co-pending, commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/706,080 to SASAKI, entitled "Endoscope System Having an Auxiliary Lighting Device," which was filed on November 13, 2003; and

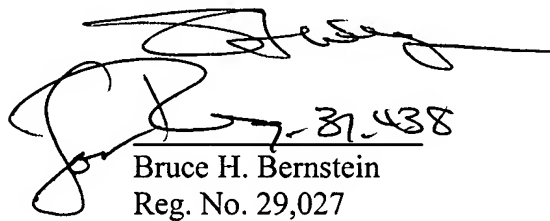
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/777,086 to OTA, entitled "Electronic Endoscope System," which was filed on February 13, 2004.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-noted applications are attached. The Examiner is requested to review the file wrapper of the U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

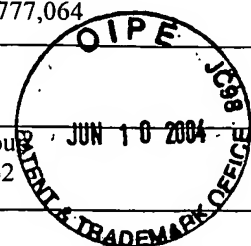
Respectfully Submitted,
Noriko OTA



31-438
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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No. P24594	Application No. 10/777,064
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Noriko OTA
Filing Date February 13, 2004		Group 3762



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6 6 0 2 1 8 6	08/05/03	SUGIMOTO et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
200	0	- 2 1 0 2 4 5	08/02/00	JAPAN			X
	1	0 1 0 8 8 2 6	04/28/98	JAPAN			X
20	0	2 - 7 2 1 0 6	03/12/02	JAPAN			X
		2 8 6 6 6 5 8	02/18/98	JAPAN			X
	1	1 3 0 5 1 4 8	11/05/99	JAPAN			X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		1	English Language Abstract of JP 11-305148.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	